

Feature listing from October '99

October '99: The Manor House, Castle Combe; Aeration; Saltex review; Mycorrhizas; Toro Award preview

November '99: Sir Michael Bonallack interview; The Pines GC; Oil; Bunkers; National Championship review

December '99: Agronomy; Security; Environment Competition Winner; Toro Award Winners

January 2000: Greens Construction; Awkward Jobs; Sandy McDivot; Agronomy; Toro Award review

February 2000: BTME2000 review; Committed to Green interview; Rookery Park GC; Engines; Chairman's profile; Environmental Management

March 2000: Cleobury Mortimer GC; Course Furniture; R&A Conference Report; Cutting heights; Avoncrop profile; Valderrama report; Westurf preview

April 2000: Fortrose & Rosemarkie GC; Utility Vehicles; Irrigation; Seed breeding; Gem Professional profile.

May 2000: Ross-on-Wye GC; Top Dressing; Course Mapping; Compact Tractors

June 2000: National Championship preview; Spraying; World Education Conference review; Environmental Management; Mowers

July 2000: Open Championship Preview; Dougal Duguid Court Case Report; Pest Control; Aventis profile; Course Conditioning

August 2000: Open Championship review; Water Features; Saltex preview; Charcoal; Malone GC; Royal County Down; Grand Tour Scholarship

September 2000: Blowers and Sweepers; Berkshire College Academy; National Championship roundup; Gordon McKillop interview; Winter health checks

October 2000: Toro Awards Preview; Ronald Fream; Irrigation; Saltex Review; Pest Control; Woburn GC

November 2000: Grass Cutting Machinery; Clandeboye GC; Drainage; National Championship review; Leatherjacket management

December 2000: Toro Awards; Making the most of your Dealer; Budget Boosters; BTME2001 preview; BIGGA/Bernhards CGSA delegation preview

January 2001: Communication; Tyres; Turf diseases; Kingsbarns Golf Links; Environment Competition Winner - Dyke GC; Talking Heads - Pest Control

February 2001: BTME2001 review; Winter Mowing; Irrigation; Broadstone GC; Hedges; Security

March 2001: York GC; Greens Maintenance; Meland GC, Norway; Greens Mowers; BIGGA Essay Winner; Grass Science profile

April 2001: Lighting detection; Brockett Hall GC; CGSA report; Fairway Mowers; Irrigation; Sward renovation; BIGGA Essay winner; Turf Disease

May 2001: Foot and Mouth Disease Special Report; Maintenance Facility report; Bunker Sand; ATVs; RainBird Profile; Fineturf Genetics; BTME2002 countdown; Electric-powered machines

June 2001: Stoke Park Club profile; Stuart Cagle MG; Tractors; Leaf Spot Disease; Take All Patch; Construction

July 2001: Royal Lytham profile; Tees Mowers; Fertilisers; Green Grasses; John Deere profile; Sandy McDivot; College Listings

August 2001: Aeration Survey; Machrie GC profile; Rough Mowers; Saltex Preview; Dr Alan Gange - environmental research; Hayter Profile; Ponds; Open Championship review; Toro Student of the Year profile;

September 2001: Ryder Cup preview; Chafer Grubs; Drainage; BIGGA National Championship preview; Sandy McDivot; Machinery Maintenance; Soil Analysis; Wild Flowers



It makes you think



Just back from Saltex which was an extremely successful three days for all concerned.

From our perspective, Jennifer and Meredith had an excellent week each walking miles selling advertisement space in the magazine and stand space for BTME and our new Golf Club Show. On our stand, Tracey and Sami were also extremely busy fielding enquiries about membership and education matters. It was particularly pleasing to see so many people registering for the CPD programme.

For my part I thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many members, friends and friends of the Association who used the stand as a rendezvous point. That's great as that is one of the main reasons we are there.

I had the privilege of being a Stand Judge on the first day and I must admit I had my eyes opened. It's amazing what people can do with bollards to make things interesting! So much so, that one of them picked up a prize.

The IOG must be congratulated for a superb show. It seemed to be bigger than ever and although I had three full days I still didn't manage to get round it all. I was also a guest at the IOG

Awards lunch where the groundsman from Preston North End was presented with the Football Groundsman of the Year Award. Congratulations to Peter McCallion on a very well deserved achievement. The whole occasion was very pleasant and very enjoyable.

Talking of Shows, preparations are well advanced at BIGGA HOUSE for BTME 2002 and it looks set to be another outstanding Harrogate. The change to a three day show, finishing on the Thursday, is being well received, while feedback on the new Golf Club Show is positive and it is to be hoped that it will become another integral feature of an already busy week.

Back to my day job at Walton Heath, we've just finished hosting the Golf Illustrated Vase. One thing that the event brought home to me was the colossal distances the ball is being hit nowadays. Following a couple of tee adjustments this winter we will be able to boast two courses each over 7,000 yards long which should keep them at bay for the time being at least but it just makes you wonder where it will all end.

I spoke recently to one prominent member of our Club, a past Internationalist now in his 80th year, who considers that he is hitting the ball further with the modern equipment than he was in his prime. It really does make you think.

This month I also had the pleasure of visiting Ryston Park, in Downham Market, Norfolk, which was hosting one of the Midland Region's Golf Management Trophy events. I'd not visited the nine hole course before but I really liked the look of it, with its array of mature specimen trees which are a real feature, while we received wonderful welcome and meal in the clubhouse. I didn't spoil my day by playing, but the greens looked superb and the whole course was a real credit to Head Greenkeeper, Kevin Hodges. The day was splendidly organised by Peter Larter and won by Oundle Golf Club, who, I believe, now have the honour of hosting next year's event.

Talking about hosting events it is with some trepidation that we move towards the rearranged South East Region's Gentleman's dinner at Walton Heath, postponed from March because of the Foot and Mouth Epidemic. It is always worrying to have so many fine greenkeepers scrutinising the course but in light of the recent terrible events in America it shouldn't be difficult to put such worries into perspective.

Clive Osgood, Chairman